

NID 84-145JX

6/21/84

INDIA: Problems With Sikh Troops

[REDACTED] continuing government concern over the activities and morale of Sikh troops, whose disaffection may have been fomented by their religious leaders. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Army and paramilitary units continue their sweeps for terrorists in Punjab, despite demands by Sikhs that the Army end its internal security operations. Hindus, on the other hand, are calling for protection by the Army for an indefinite period against possible retribution by the Sikhs. [REDACTED]

Comment: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Prime Minister Gandhi may feel compelled to allay the fears of Hindus by having the Army continue its peacekeeping duties in Punjab, at least until after elections, despite the Army's desire to turn its current assignment over to paramilitary forces. [REDACTED]

~~Top Secret~~

21 June 1984